

FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS)
PROJECT FACT SHEET
ORIGINAL DATE: JULY 1994
TAG REVIEW DATE: 4 NOVEMBER 1997

1. **SITE NAME:** Gambell Site

SITE NUMBER: F10AK069600

LOCATION: St. Lawrence Island
State: Alaska

PROJECT NUMBER: F10AK069604

CATEGORY: OE

INPR RAC: 4

ASR RAC: 4

TAG RAC: 4

2. **POC's:**

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3. **SITE DESCRIPTION:**

The investigation focused on seven sites, approximately 2,542 acres, that were used between 1950 and 1973 and are referred to as the Gambell Site. The Northeast Cape Radio Relay Site (21,013 acres) and the Savoonga National Guard Site (.32 acre) are not included in this report. Also not included in the original FDE, but included in this report, are two additional OE burial sites located during this site investigation (see Plates

1, 2, and 3.)). Today, as a result of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) of 1971, the entire St. Lawrence Island is held jointly by Sivuqag, Inc., and Savoonga Native Corporations. These corporations were formed for the benefit of the Yupik Eskimos.

4. SITE HISTORY:

a. Gambell Site was established in the 1950's as part of the surveillance and intelligence gathering network of the military. The border to the former Soviet Union was less than 30 miles away, and all shipping traveling through the Bering Straits passed within eyesight of the installation. Seven individual leases were initiated by the DOD in this area. The first lease agreement was implemented in September 1950, and the final lease was terminated in September 1973. The Air Force established an aircraft control and warning installation at Gambell. The Army, at one time, had several hundred personnel stationed at Gambell in support of the intelligence gathering mission. Armories storing .30 and .50 caliber ammunition were maintained by each unit on the island. Prior to lease terminations, all DOD-owned material was demolished and/or buried on site. No OE cleanup operations are known to have been conducted.

b. Today, the majority of the land remains in its native state. Housing for the town has expanded to the area used as a base camp for the Army units (see Plates 2 and 3). No development has occurred in the areas identified as having a confirmed or potential OE presence.

5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Area A:

Size, Acres:	Approximately 0.46
Former Use:	Air Force Burial Site
Present Use:	Undeveloped
Probable End Use:	Same as above
Ordnance Presence:	Potential
Type:	.30 & .50 cal. small arms ammunition

Area B:

Size, Acres:	Approximately 0.06
Former Use:	Radar Site
Present Use:	Undeveloped
Probable End Use:	Same as above
Ordnance Presence:	Confirmed
Type:	Same as Area A

Area C:

Size, Acres:	Approximately 143
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Former Use: Lake Burial Site
Present Use: Undeveloped
Probable End Use: Same as above
Ordnance Presence: Potential
Type: Same as Area A

Area D:

Size, Acres: Approximately 0.50
Former Use: Beach Burial Site
Present Use: Unimproved area
Probable End Use: Same as above
Ordnance Presence: Confirmed
Type: Same as Area A

Area E:

Size, Acres: 1,751
Former Use: Remaining Land/Roadways
Present Use: Undeveloped
Probable End Use: Same as above
Ordnance Presence: None

6. CURRENT STATUS:

The Archives Search Report (ASR) for the Gambell Site was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, in July 1994.

7. STRATEGY: Area A: EE/CA
Area B: EE/CA
Area C: EE/CA
Area D: EE/CA
Area E: NOFA

8. ISSUES AND CONCERNS:

a. The Huntsville Center Technical Advisory Group reviewed this ASR and concurs with the recommendations for an EE/CA in Areas A, B, C, and D as small arms were used, stored and found in these areas. An updated Risk Assessment Code (RAC) form is attached which reflects a score of 4. RI/FS has been undertaken and HTRW monitoring for heavy metals associated with small arms along with soil and ground water sampling are currently on-going according to Bob Chivvis and Ron Tflum at the Alaska District. Area C and D are not part of the original FDE which needs to be modified before these additional acres are to be considered for any OE removal action.

b. There are known Federally-and State-listed species occurring in the site area. An on-site inspection by appropriate State and Federal personnel may be necessary to verify the presence, absence or location of listed species, or natural communities.

c. Based on the investigation of historical records reviewed, the results of the site survey and interviews, there is no evidence of Chemical Warfare Materials ever being stored, used or disposed of at this FUDS.

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